



School Operators Limited

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1st September 2022



Dear Staff,

New Head for Peponi House

The Board is delighted to announce that Mrs. Tracy Handford has been appointed as the Head of Peponi House with effect from September 2023.

Mrs. Handford is currently Vice-Principal of The Stephen Perse Foundation in Cambridge, UK, which educates 1,700 students aged between 1 and 18. In that role she is responsible for the primary education of over 700 children at their two prep schools and their pre-preps, as well as four pre-school nurseries. She works closely with The Stephen Perse Senior School and is also the Designated Safeguarding Lead for the entire Foundation, overseeing pupil care and wellbeing at all age groups.

Mrs. Handford has an Honours degree in Applied Biology from Leeds University with Qualified Teacher Status and an MA in Curriculum Studies from the University of London's Institute of Education. She joined Stephen Perse in 2015 as Head of one of their prep schools, Dame Bradbury's, and she was promoted to her current role in 2018. She had previously been Head at St-Hilda's Prep School, just outside London. She has taught in various prep schools as she moved up the leadership ladder.

A keen sports coach (hockey, netball, cricket and swimming), Mrs. Handford is also an ISI Reporting Inspector and leads inspection teams at other independent schools. She is married to Richard, a podiatrist. Their daughter, Millie, has just completed her A Levels and will be proceeding to University in September to study Veterinary Science.

From a list of 30 applicants who applied for the Headship, the Board was highly impressed with Mrs. Handford as we felt she understood and shared in our ethos and vision of Peponi House.

Her current role is strategic as well as operational and together with her work as an Inspector, means she understands how top quality education is changing and that she has seen numerous examples of very best practice.

Although she officially joins us in September 2023, she will be visiting the Peponi Schools during the coming year and we will make sure there are opportunities for parents to meet her. In the meantime, Graeme Anderson will be excellent as our Interim Head and we thank him in advance for stepping up to this key role.

Yours sincerely,